

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of making a cathode for a primary lithium battery comprising:

step A: pulling an expanded metal grid including aluminum and having an initial tensile strength and an array of diamond-shaped openings, each opening having a long dimension and a short dimension, and each opening defined by four elongated boundary elements, each boundary element having a length and the pulling being along a direction other than along the length of any of the elements, the pulling providing a pulled expanded metal grid having an increase in the short dimension of the openings and an increase in the tensile strength to greater than 5 lb/in; and

step B: leveling the pulled expanded metal grid by passing the pulled expanded metal grid between rollers, and

step BC: coating the pulled expanded metal grid with a composition including a cathode active material to provide a coated and pulled expanded metal grid,

wherein leveling is conducted before coating and in a separate step before step C.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is a slurry.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cathode active material includes a manganese dioxide, a CF_x, iron disulfide, or a vanadate.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition includes a carbon source.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the carbon source includes a carbon fiber, a graphite, an acetylenic carbon, or a combination thereof.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition includes a binder.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the binder includes an organic polymer.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes a 1000 series aluminum, a 2000 series aluminum alloy, a 3000 series aluminum alloy, a 5000 series aluminum alloy, a 6000 series aluminum alloy, or a 7000 series aluminum alloy.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes a 6000 series aluminum alloy.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0-0.4% by weight of chromium.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0.01-6.8% by weight of copper.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0.05-1.3% by weight of iron.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0.1-7% by weight of magnesium.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0-2% by weight of manganese.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0-2% by weight of silicon.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including less than 0.25% by weight of titanium.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0-8.2% by weight of zinc.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid includes an aluminum alloy including 0-2.3% by weight of nickel.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid has a resistivity of less than 100 mΩ/cm.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the grid has a resistivity of less than 10 mΩ/cm.

21-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising drying the coated and pulled expanded metal grid after coating.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising calendering the coated and pulled expanded metal grid after drying.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein calendering includes passing the coated and pulled expanded metal grid through a gap having a thickness of less than 25 mils.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising heat treating the coated and pulled expanded metal grid after calendering.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 27, further comprising drying the coated and pulled expanded metal grid under vacuum after heat treating.

29. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the composition is a slurry.

30. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the cathode active material includes a manganese dioxide, a CF_x , iron disulfide, or a vanadate.

31. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the composition includes a carbon source.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the carbon source includes a carbon fiber, a graphite, an acetylenic carbon, or a combination thereof.

33. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the composition includes a binder.

34. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the binder includes an organic polymer.

35-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising drying the coated and pulled expanded metal grid after coating.

38. (Currently amended) The method of claim 37, further comprising calendering the coated and pulled expanded metal grid after drying.

39. (Currently amended) The method of claim 38, wherein calendering includes passing the coated and pulled expanded metal grid through a gap having a thickness of less than 25 mils.

40-58. (Cancelled)

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein coating the pulled expanded metal grid comprises immersing the metal grid in the composition including the cathode active material.

60-65. (Cancelled)

66. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the cathode active material includes manganese dioxide.

67. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the cathode active material includes an iron disulfide.